

Docket No.
448563/0231

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: **Minoru Usui, et al.**

Group Art Unit: **Not Yet
Assigned**

Application No.: **Cont. of 09/924,355**

Examiner: **Not Yet Assigned**

Filed: **Concurrently Herewith**

For: **VALVE UNIT IN INK SUPPLY CHANNEL OF INK-JET
RECORDING APPARATUS, INK CARTRIDGE USING THE
VALVE UNIT, INK SUPPLY NEEDLE AND METHOD OF
PRODUCING THE VALVE UNIT**

Date: **September 25, 2003**

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1), within three months of the filing date of the subject application.

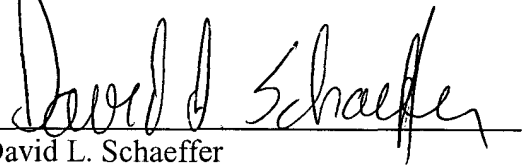
Furthermore, the cited references constitute the art of record from parent application no. 09/924,355, which is relied upon for an earlier effective filing date pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 120. In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(d), copies of such prior art have not been submitted.

Accordingly, no fee is believed to be due. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees which may now or hereafter be due in connection with this application to Deposit Account No. 19-4709, as necessary.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449 be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Favorable consideration and prompt allowance of this application is respectfully requested. In the event that there are any questions, or should additional information be required, please do not hesitate to contact applicant's attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David L. Schaeffer", is written over a horizontal line.

David L. Schaeffer
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Attorney for Applicants
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New York, New York 10038-4982
(212) 806-5400

FORM PTO 1449 (modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT(S) (Use several sheets if necessary)				ATTY DOCKET NO. 448563/0231		APPLICATION NO. Cont. of 09/924,355	
				APPLICANT Minoru Usui, et al.			
				FILING DATE Concurrently Herewith		GROUP Not Yet Assigned	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		6,302,531	10/2001	Usui, et al.	347	86	
		6,010,211	1/2000	Betchson			
		6,000,780	12/1999	Iida			
		5,815,186	9/29/98	Pietrzyk	347	92	
		5,691,753	11/25/97	Hilton	347	85	
		5,477,963	12/26/95	Mochizuki, et al.	206	701	
		4,869,282	9/26/89	Sittler, et al.	137	15	
		4,677,447	6/30/87	Nielsen	347	87	
		4,628,576	12/16/86	Giachino, et al.			
		4,514,742	4/30/85	Suga, et al.	347	85	
		3,779,274	12/18/73	Kelly	137	505	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		0 709 207	5/1/96	EPO			
		0 336 307	10/11/89	EPO			
		0 112 701	7/4/84	EPO			
		2 391 405	12/15/78	France			

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO/ OR ABSTRACT
		1 152 583	9/15/58	Germany			
		0 238 829	9/1987	EPO			
		195 45 775	6/1997	DE			
		55-146766	11/1980	Japan			
		1 268 227	9/23/60	France			
		0 116 466	8/1984	EPO			

OTHER DOCUMENT(S) (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)		

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